

From: Yosuke Matsumura
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 9:43pm

To: Federal Register
Re: Microsoft Antitrust Trial

I am currently a college freshman attending Cornell University and have been a computer user since fourth grade. Throughout this time, I have been using Apple computers, and I am familiar with the detrimental effects of Microsoft's monopoly in the personal computer business. I fear that the proposed settlement will not be enough to solve the problems brought up by the antitrust trial. To justly penalize Microsoft for the antitrust violations that it has been found accountable for, the settlement must include the following:

An equal, if not separate, development of its key productivity programs (Office, Outlook, and Media Player) for alternative operating systems. Furthermore, these programs must be sold at the same price as their Windows versions. As an Apple user, I have been forced to use these products, as they have become the de facto standard in the academic and business community. This would not be problematic if not for the fact that the Macintosh versions of these softwares come at a premium price and with fewer features than the Windows counterparts.

For example, Outlook is not available for Apple's new operating system, OS X. Microsoft includes a different program, Entourage, to view email and organize appointments and contacts. However, while Outlook is able to communicate with Microsoft's Exchange Servers, Entourage is not. Additionally, while OfficeXP for Windows Standard Edition costs \$239 and \$479 for the upgrade and full versions respectively, the Macintosh equivalent, Office v.X costs \$299 and \$499 for the upgrade and full versions respectively. This is for the standard suite for both platforms, which include Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and an email program (Outlook for Windows and Entourage for Macintosh). Furthermore, Macintosh users are denied the opportunity to buy a "Professional" version like Windows users, that comes with Microsoft Access.

By providing second-rate software to other platforms, Microsoft indirectly supports users to switch to a Windows operating system to gain full compatibility and lower prices on software. Since Microsoft also produces the Windows operating system, a conflict of interest arises. A user moving to from a non-Windows machine to a Windows machine will purchase not only the productivity programs they wish to have, but also the Windows operating system. Promoting such behavior by providing less-capable software to competing operating systems only helps Microsoft's position and provides no incentive for the company to improve its software for other operating systems. This addition to the settlement will ensure that users of other operating systems will be

able to work effectively without pressure to use the Windows operating system.

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